

FACTS ON MURDERED & MISSING ABORIGINAL WOMEN

"We remember that a beautiful Aboriginal woman is represented by every number shared, that each statistic tells a story." ~ Native Women's Association of Canada

SYSTEMIC RACISM

is the discrimination produced and perpetuated by institutions that deny or limit the economic, political, and social opportunities of individuals based on race, through policies, procedures, and laws. This is different from racism based on a personal bias.

ABORIGINAL WOMEN

- 3X** more likely to experience partner violence vs non-Aboriginal women.
- 37%** are below the low income cut-off vs 16% of non-Aboriginal women.
- 3X** more likely to experience violence by a stranger vs non-Aboriginal women.
- 14%** unemployment rate vs 6% for non-Aboriginal women.
- 10%** of female homicides but make up 3% of the total female population.
- 35%** have not graduated high school vs 20% of non-Aboriginal women.

SISTERS IN SPIRIT

a research and policy initiative driven and led by Aboriginal women started in 2005. Primary goal was to conduct research and raise awareness of the alarmingly high rates of violence against Aboriginal women and girls in Canada, discovering more than 582 cases. In 2010 SIS was defunded by the Conservative government.

SISTERS IN SPIRIT FINDINGS

- 393** or 67% are murder cases.
- 40%** of cases remain unsolved vs the national rate of 16%.
- 115** or 20% are cases of missing women and girls.
- 88%** were mothers, impacting more than 440 children.
- 68%** of all cases occurred in the western provinces.
- 0** national data sources regarding missing persons in Canada.

HIGHWAY OF TEARS

is the Yellowhead Highway 16 in British Columbia where a series of unsolved murders and disappearances of young women took place. Official sources list the number of victims at 18, but aboriginal leaders estimate the number could be as high as 43.